Annual Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns

The Pilgrimage will be May 5-7, 2017 at Arlington, Virginia. We will be staying at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center 5000 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA 22311. Banquet will be Saturday evening. Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns will take place on Sunday, May 7 at Arlington National Cemetery. The Memorial Service will be held in the Amphitheater at noon this year with the Laying of the Wreath at 1:00. (*Please note the change of time this year.)

For reservations call: 1-703-845-1010 or 1-800-HILTONS (1-800-445-8667)
You MUST mention “Odd Fellows Pilgrimage” when reserving your room to receive the special rate of...

For Schedule of Events, Registration Form and more details for the 2017 Pilgrimage, please go online to ioof.org and click on “NEWS/MEDIA” go to January/February IOOF News.

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Youth Days 2017 will be in St. Louis, Missouri August 18 & 19

Fun Facts to know and share!
St. Louis is known as the "gateway" to the west because it was used as a starting point by the pioneers to leave for the trek to the west. It is a very large city today. St. Louis is known as the "gateway" to the west because it was used as a starting point by the pioneers to leave for the trek to the west.

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NEWS FROM THE TOP!

A few words taken from the IOOF News:

Greetings Brother and Sisters,
I wish everyone a very Happy New Year to each and everyone of you. This is the time of year for a fresh start - planning for growth, start bringing non-members into your lodge room, start demonstrating the value of Odd Fellowship and start reaching out in the community to recruit members, rebuild your lodge and rededicate yourselves. ...

...I hope each of you will enjoy watching the Rose Parade on the second of January. Sister Joyce Link, Gen. Dan Mathews and I will have the honor and distinct pleasure to be able to represent every Odd Fellow and Rebekah as we ride down Colorado Boulevard on the float.
My brothers and sisters, lets us unite ourselves and wholeheartedly go out and actively recruit new members into the lodge. It needs to begin at the local lodge level. lets us not just talk about it, but let us go out and do it and make substantial membership gains to out Order. United in our efforts we will succeed. Together, let’s go and do it.

Please remember to “Be a Lover not a Fighter” by being kind to everyone and have this a year of Unity.

Thank You,
In Friendship, Love and Truth,
W. Larry Ferguson

The Youth Informer will be looking forward to upcoming articles from our leaders to share with the Youth!

To all Theta Rho Girls Clubs and Junior Lodges
Hi and Happy 2017

Looking forward to a new year and an opportunity to re-energize your clubs and lodges with new ideas to increase membership.

I extend my best wishes to you as you prepare for your annual sessions – enjoy the fellowship you will share with each other.

Keep your clubs and lodges active and strong – invite a friend to join you.

Fraternally,
Joyce Link
IARA President
e-mail: jplink@att.net

A few words taken from the IOOF News:

Chevaliers, Ladies, Brothers, and Sisters,

If we think of our New Year’s resolutions as goals what a wondrous and caring world we can build together. Goals are truly achieved when the results have an impact. It is imperative that we build a set of goals that we can achieve, and then use the results of those goals to create impact on our communities and Lodges. When individuals are impacted by our good work those achievements will pay us back in membership....

...Our Order needs to turn our attention to the needs of today. We need to look to the future and find our place in it and then mold our goals to serve mankind in new ways that meet the new needs of our changing world....

Chevalrously,
Lady Tracy L. Boyer
President IA-LAPM

A few words taken from the IOOF News:

...The New Year has arrived! It can be a start of many great things: time to ask someone new to join our great Order and then the LAPM, time to get involved in the projects of our Order or make new projects, time to get involved in community work. I read somewhere that “Odd Fellowship is not just an organization to occupy our time; it is a way of life”. Let us not forget this as we make our journey through 2017, this is the year that we can make it a “great way of life” again by living by our principles and obligations and making a difference. Always remember that “OUR REWARDS ARE EQUAL TO OUR DEEDS.” Have a very blessed new year.

Chevalrously,
Lady Tracy L. Boyer
President IA-LAPM

We look forward to more information and inspiration from our leaders in our next Edition of the Youth Informer.
**A message from Laurel...**

Happy New Year Youth of the Order,

I am very excited to share some news for this year's SGL/IARA Youth Sessions. This year we are switching things up a bit. Orientation will be on Friday, of course, but we are planning on starting earlier in the day. Ice breaker, lunch, orientation, then your youth banquet will be Friday night with entertainment theater to follow. Saturday will be sessions, with community service hands on (tentative), then off for some fun.

Remember, we need to get your pin submittals by April, along with the Irene Meigs and Advisor of the year.

Please note my new contact information:
- e-mail: laureljdelony@gmail.com
- Cell: 253-468-1949 Home: 253-983-7619
- P.O. Box 39435 Lakewood, WA 98496

Please give me a call or e-mail if you have any ideas, suggestions, questions etc.

If you would like to have one of my committee team members come to your sessions, please send a written request with all pertinent info.

Me and my team are looking forward seeing you all in August.

Fraternal Hugs, Laurel (LoLo) Delony
Chairman SGL–IARA Joint Youth Committee

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**UN Pilgrimage for Youth 2017 Tour**

The 68th United Nations Pilgrimage for Youth tour will be held July 8 through July 25, 2017. Open to 16-17 year old youth from around the world, this year hopes to host 300 delegates who will visit the United Nations and hear from various agencies regarding world affairs and issues. Each delegate gives a short speech while in New York City with 2 winners each week being awarded scholarships from the Educational Foundation IOOF. During the 2017 tour delegates will visit sites in New York City, a Broadway play, Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, and other educational venues. The tour also includes Washington DC and Ottawa Ontario.

Are you old enough to participate in the UN Pilgrimage tour? If so, contact your state UN Chairperson or my office for information.

Janet L. Bruce, Executive Director
I.O.O.F. United Nations Educational Pilgrimage for Youth, Inc.
205 Hastings Way SW Poplar Grove, IL 61065-9090
Phone: 888.247.4983 F: 815.765.2011
Email: unpinc@unpilgrimage.org

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**CONTESTS FOR YOUTH!**

**Irene Meigs Award 2017**

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Send us a list of your community service activities in which your lodge, club, or group participated in without compensation. Provide the description of the projects, amount of money collected/donated, the number of participants and the hours of service provided. A cash prize is awarded to the winner.

**Advisor of the Year 2017**

Submit in writing why you feel your advisor should receive this award. Tell us the special things that he or she does to make your meetings more fun. Let us know what your advisor has taught you and how you have grown in knowledge of our order. Although we realize that Assistant Advisors are very special too, this particular award is for the Club/Lodge/Group Advisor only.

**Pin Design for 2017:**

Submit your design for the Youth Pin. The winner receives a cash prize. The design must include the year of the pin, the Junior Odd Fellow, Theta Rho, and United Youth Group emblems, and the colors to be used. Keep the design simple, as the finished size is approximately 1” diameter. Please make sure your name and address are on the back of the design.
These will be on the schedule of events for Youth Days:

*Orientation has been 1:00 Friday Afternoon Sharp! BUT, this year we may start early to allow us to head out to our adventures in St. Louis earlier! More in the next edition.

*Looking into “hands on” Community Service this year in the community

*Saturday Night is Fun Night!

*Youth Reports will be heard by you on Saturday. Come prepared!

*Incoming Officers Visit

*Youth will have an opportunity with the JYC for a group Rap Session without the Advisors.

*Advisors will have an opportunity with the JYC for a group Rap Session without the Youth. (We are encouraging all Advisors and Youth to bring thoughts, issues and feedback to the Rap Sessions with the JYC.)

*Dinner Theater on Friday night. Talent can be skits, music, a short story you have written or some thing else that you can share with us. You are the entertainment!

Hello to all!
I have had a few Clubs asking about the Mailing List. If your Club is not receiving a copy of The Youth Informer, please contact your state and ask them to check into why. If your state has not given information of your Junior Lodge, Theta Rho Girls Club, Cadet Group or United Youth Groups to the Secretary of SGL, the Sovereign Grand Lodge and I do not know you exist and you are not then on the list for the Youth Informer to be sent to your club.

The current mailing list I have is below. I want to be sure every club is receiving a copy of the Youth Informer. I need your help to assure this is possible. I am happy to send a copy to any of the Youth members at no charge to them. If you would like a copy sent to you, please send me an email or send me a letter. I will get you a copy. Remember also, I want to see your articles in the Youth Informer. Send me information and I will put it in the Youth Informer to share what you are up to! I hope you are all have been enjoying reading your Youth Informer as I have enjoyed writing it. Looking forward to hearing from many of you!

In Friendship, Gwen Wixom, Editor of your Youth Informer

Junior Lodges
Tyler Junior Lodge No. 27 I.O.O.F.
Quick Silver Jr Ldg #113 IOOF
Conroe Junior Lodge No 704 IOOF
Shamrock Junior Lodge #4 IOOF
Balch Springs Jr Ldg No. 64 IOOF
Kings Men Jr Ldg #96 IOOF
Stockton Jr Ldg #2 IOOF

United Youth Groups
Generosity United Youth Group No 1 IOOF
Reece United Youth Group No. 1 I.O.O.F.
Sheridan United Youth Group No. 2 IOOF
Hillsboro United Youth Group No. 1 IOOF
Lamplighters United Youth Group No. 1

Theta Rho Girls Clubs
Tyler TRGC No 142 I.O.O.F.
Rhododendrom T R #67 IOOF
Spunky Bluebirds TRGC #93 IOOF
Florin Theta Rho #68 IOOF
Nu Eta Theta Rho #15 IOOF
Echo Theta Rho #17 IOOF
Alamo Theta Rho #36 IOOF
Pasco Theta Rho #14 IOOF
Alpha Theta Rho #1 IOOF
Red Rose Theta Rho #8 IOOF
Irene Theta Rho #10 IOOF

Omega Theta Rho Girls' Club No. 95 IOOF
Eta Theta Rho Girls' Club No. 94
Balch Springs Theta Rho #9 IOOF
Humbleettes Theta Rho #14 IOOF
Acorn Theta Rho #79 IOOF
Jonquil Theta Rho #25 IOOF
Sigma Tau Theta Rho #92 IOOF
Pax Theta Rho #24 IOOF
Flying Eagles Theta Rho #9 IOOF
Irish Belles Theta Rho #16 IOOF
2017 Pre-Registration Form

The Sovereign Grand Lodge
International Association of Rebekah Assemblies
General Military Council, Patriarchs Militant
International Association
Ladies Auxiliaries Patriarchs Militant

St. Louis, Missouri
August 18 to 25, 2017

Please Note:
All Attendees MUST register

Name (as desired on badge) __________________________________________

Unit attending:  SGL  IARA  GMC  IALAPM  Youth (please circle one)

Title for name badge ________________________________________________

Mailing Address _______________________________________________________________________________________

City, St./Prv, Postal Code _______________________________________________________________________________

Telephone _________________________________  -  Email _________________________________

Registration Information

Registrations on or before July 21, 2017, $75.00  $ __________________________

Registrations after July 21, 2017, $80.00  $ __________________________

Highlight Events

Officer’s Banquet, Monday Aug. 21, $70.00  $ __________________________

East to West Night, Wednesday Aug. 23, $50.00  $ __________________________

Welcome Dinner, Saturday Aug. 19, $50.00  $ __________________________

Youth dinner, Friday Aug. 18, $ TBD  $ __________________________

Total Fees for the session, in US dollars  $ __________________________

Please mail all Registration Forms with a check or money order to:
2017 I.O.O.F. Session Committee
422 N. Trade St.
Winston-Salem, NC 27101-2830

Tours of the St. Louis Area, may be picked by searching St. Louis, MO city tours—there are a number of options.

Any special requests, such as: special diet, should be indicated here: __________________________________________
I have a reservation at the
Hyatt Regency St. Louis at The Arch
Check in Time 3:00p.m Check out time 12:00 noon

Hyatt Regency St. Louis at The Arch
315 Chestnut Street
St. Louis, MO 63102
(314) 655-1234
(314) 241-9839 (Fax)

Please mail the following information to the above address:
Attention: Kellie Cowser

Driving Directions:
From I-70 East, exit at Memorial Dr. Go Right at Market St., then right at 4th St., then right at Chestnut St.. From I-55 North, exit at Memorial Dr., turn left at Market St., then right at 4th St., then right at Chestnut.

PLEASE CUT ALONG THE DOTTED LINE AND KEEP THIS PORTION FOR YOUR PERSONAL RECORDS

The Hyatt Regency St. Louis at The Arch is pleased to host The Independent Order of Odd Fellows, August 15 to 25, 2017

To ensure accurate reservations, please complete this reservation request and return it before 07/15/17. Requests received after this date will be accepted based on room and rate availability.

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<th>Triple</th>
<th>Quadruple</th>
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<td>$169</td>
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Name: ___________________  Arrival Date: __________  Arrival Time: __________
Address: ___________________  Departure Date: __________
City/State/Zip: _____________  Additional Guests: ___________________
Telephone: ___________________

Please provide a credit card to hold your reservation
☐ Master Card  ☐ Visa  ☐ Discover  ☐ American Express  ☐ Carte Blanche/Diners Club

CARD NUMBER: ___________  EXP. DATE: ___________

NAME OF CREDIT CARD HOLDER

SIGNATURE OF CARD HOLDER

- Check in time after 3:00p.m. Check out time if 12 noon. Taxes are subject to change. Current tax percentage is 16.925%
- Cancellation of modification of reservation must be made at least 48 hours prior to arrival
- No charge for children under 18 when sharing room with parent and using existing bed space.
- All hotel accounts are subject to credit arrangements at time of registration and payable at departure.

Please call 888-421-1442 for reservation assistance
WE LOOK FORWARD TO BEING OF SERVICE!
**Did You Know...**

**Tomb of the Unknown Soldier**

The Tomb of the Unknowns is a monument dedicated to American service members who have died without their remains being identified. It is also known as the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, but it has never been officially named so. It is located in Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia, United States of America. The World War I "Unknown" is a recipient of the Medal of Honor, the Victoria Cross, and several other foreign nations' highest service awards. The U.S. Unknowns who were interred are also recipients of the Medal of Honor, presented by U.S. Presidents who presided over their funerals.

**Interesting Tidbits of Missouri...**

**The Spirit of St. Louis**

The Spirit of St. Louis is the custom-built, single engine, single-seat monoplane that was flown solo by Charles Lindbergh on May 20–21, 1927, on the first solo non-stop transatlantic flight from Long Island, New York, to Paris, France, for which Lindbergh won the $25,000 Orteig Prize.

"Spirit of St. Louis" was named in honor of Lindbergh's supporters in St. Louis, Missouri, who paid for the aircraft. "NYP" is an acronym for "New York-Paris," the object of the flight.

Worrying squirrels is not tolerated in Missouri.

The most powerful earthquake to strike the United States occurred in 1811, centered in New Madrid, Missouri. The quake shook more than one million square miles, and was felt as far as 1,000 miles away.

Samuel Clemens, more familiarly known as Mark Twain, was born in Florida, Missouri and grew up in nearby Hannibal. Beginning his career as a printer’s apprentice for the Missouri Courier in Hannibal, he eventually wrote for the Keokuk, Iowa Saturday Post. Soon thereafter, however, he abandoned his literary career and spent 18 months as a riverboat pilot on the Mississippi River. After the Civil War, he returned to writing for newspapers and magazines, before writing his novels based on life on the Mississippi River, such as Tom Sawyer and The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn.

Jesse Woodson James was born in Kearney, Missouri, the son of a Baptist minister. Some believe that cruel treatment by Union soldiers during the Civil War was what turned Jesse and his brother Frank to a life of crime after the war. Their first bank robbery got them $60,000 from a bank in Liberty, Missouri. For 15 years, Frank and Jesse robbed trains and banks throughout the U.S. In 1876, Jesse and Frank were involved in a robbery along with the Younger Brothers and other gang members. The detectives killed or wounded all of them except Frank and Jesse. From that point, Jesse, his wife, and children went into hiding, but the $10,000 price on Jesse's head led Bob Ford to shoot him at his St. Joseph, Missouri home in 1882 to collect the reward.
What is St. Louis Famous for, you ask?

- where 7-Up was invented
- where the ice cream cone was first invented
- known for toasted ravioli, gooey butter cake, and provel cheese
- where The 1904 World's Fair was held
- the first American city to host the Olympics
- formerly known as the largest shoe-manufacturing center in the world
- popular for its St. Louis Zoo – one of the best in the country next to San Diego's zoo
- proud to house the Missouri Botanical Gardens – among the top three botanical gardens in the world
- where the very first kindergarten was founded in the U.S.
- where the first interstate highway was built
- home to Saint Louis University – the oldest university west of the Mississippi
- home to the largest beer-producing plant in the nation – Anheuser-Busch
- where the tallest monument in the U.S. (630 ft. tall) was built – known as The Gateway Arch
- the city that hosts the largest Mardis Gras celebration outside of New Orleans
- known to consume more BBQ sauce per capita than any other American city
- Home to Busch Stadium and the St Louis Cardinals!

Missouri was named after a tribe called Missouri Indians; meaning "town of the large canoes"

Missouri's state musical instrument: fiddle and the state folk dance is the square dance.

The first ready-mix food to be sold commercially was Aunt Jemima pancake flour. It was invented in St. Joseph, Missouri and introduced in 1899.

On July 3, 1985 the honey bee was officially declared the state insect.

Missouri is known as the "Show Me State," which some say began in 1899 when Congressman Willard Duncan Vandiver stated, "I'm from Missouri and you've got to show me."
RIDDLE TIME!

Q: What’s an ig?
A: A snow house without a loo!

Q: Why do seals swim in salt water?
A: Because pepper water makes them sneeze!

Q: Where can you find an ocean without any water?
A: On a map!

Q: What eight letters can you find in water from the Arctic Ocean?
A: H to O! (H2O)

Q: What do you call a gangsta snowman?
A: Froze-T

Q: What did the snowman eat?
A: icebergs with chilli sauce.

Spot the Difference Puzzle

Can you find the 15 differences?

Chef Solas Breakfast Crossword Puzzle

Across
6. The small meal after breakfast and before lunch

Down
1. French _______ or pancakes
2. This tastes great with whole grain cereal
3. This comes from a cow but its not white
4. Home fries or hash
5. Some kids like to eat this without milk
6. Bananas, strawberries and yogurt mixed together to make a
7. Mickey Mouse shaped _______ with eggs
8. Eat this warm with milk, raisins, and brown sugar
9. Scrambled, poached and fried

WINTER ANAGRAMS

Rearrange these letters to make an anagram for each word.

1. BOOST
2. CLOD
3. COULD
4. HATE
5. SMITTEN
6. RIFE
7. PAROL
8. REHEAT
9. RIPPLES
10. WHAT

A Secret Valentine Message

Name: _____________________________

(Heart icons and symbols are visible)

www.squiggleplayhouse.com

(Website link is visible)
Did you know: you can find us at these places?
Website: ioofyouth.ca

FACEBOOK PAGE: SGL-IARA Youth
*Use Facebook to share your activities with others.
*Use Facebook as a question and answer page.
*Keep in touch with everyone that attended Youth Days in the past or just this year.
*Share your organization’s website with others.

We want to include you in The Youth Informer!
The Youth Informer would like to publish your article in our next publishing. Please submit your articles to: Gwen Wixom at 2816 Irish Ridge Road, Burlington, IA 52601. Or E-mail to gwen.wixom@century21.com Remember, this is your paper. Take an interest in being a writer for your community and let us know what your club has been up to. Send me your pictures and articles and we will try our best to get all entries in your Youth Informer.

Anyone graduate from your lodge, club or group?
Is your jurisdiction working on the Youth Honors Program? We would like to add any of this information to our Newsletter for mailing and recognition purposes:

Graduate Members: Jurisdiction: ____________________________ Graduate Name: ____________________________________
Youth Honors Program: Level____________ Name ___________________________________________

Please send this form to the SGL-IARA JYC Committee Secretary: Mary Houle’ - 27997 C. G. Lorane Road, Cottage Grove, OR 97424

SUBSCRIPTION FORM FOR ADULTS

NEW □ RENEWAL □ ADDRESS CHANGE □

NAME__________________________________________________________________________________________

ADVISOR□ (NO CHARGE) YOUTH COMMITTEE CHAIR □ (NO CHARGE)

ADDRESS OR EMAIL _________________________________________CITY ______________ STATE/PROVINCE _____ ZIP _____

FILL OUT COMPLETELY NO CHARGE FOR EMAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS OR MAIL WITH $10 (U.S. OR CANADIAN) PER YEAR TO: SGL-IARA JYC YOUTH INFORMER, Gwen Wixom - 2816 IRISH RIDGE RD., BURLINGTON, IA 52601

OFFICE USE: AMOUNT SUBMITTED $___________ U.S. __________ CANADIAN

SPONSOR OF A NEW MEMBER

SPONSER NAME ____________________________ DATE ADMITTED ___________ BRO. _____SIS._____

NEW MEMBER’S LODGE______________________ NAME__________________________

LODGE SECRETARY’S NAME____________________ ADDRESS ____________________________

ADDRESS ____________________________ CITY __________________________

CITY ____________________________ STATE/PROVINCE __________________________

STATE/PROVINCE __________________________ POSTAL/ZIP CODE __________________________

POSTAL/ZIP CODE __________________________ DATE OF BIRTH (M/D/Y) __________________________

____________________________________
YOUTH COMMITTEE DIRECTORY

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Email: laureljdelony@gmail.com

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LIASON FROM GMC TO YOUTH: Brig. Gen. Duard Fyffe
1821 S. 92nd St., Tacoma, WA 98444
(253) 282-3472
Email: amtdewey@gmail.com

Did you know: you can find us at these places?
Website: www.ioof.org (Click on YOUTH)

FACEBOOK PAGE: SGL-IARA Youth
*Use Facebook to share your activities with others.
*Use Facebook as a question and answer page.
*Keep in touch with everyone that attended Youth Days in the past or just this year.
*Share your organization’s website with others.

Do you need help? Advice? Or just an ear to listen? Request a visit by contacting Youth Committee Chairman Laurel Delony directly by phone, email or letter and we will be there. We only ask that you contact us as soon as possible to enable us time to make arrangements to get to you as quick as we can.